



Needs assessment in hard-to-reach areas of South Kordofan (Sudan)

Presentation of key findings

April 2024



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01

Overview of the assessment

Context and objectives

Context:

- Frequent armed clashes in South Kordofan since June 2023, especially in Kadugli and Dilling (OCHA, December 2023).
- Siege-like situation in Kadugli, concerns about food security situation (IMMAP, October 2023).
- Lack of comprehensive evidence on the humanitarian situation, especially in hard-to-reach localities.
- Access constraints preventing direct data collection.

Main objective of the assessment:

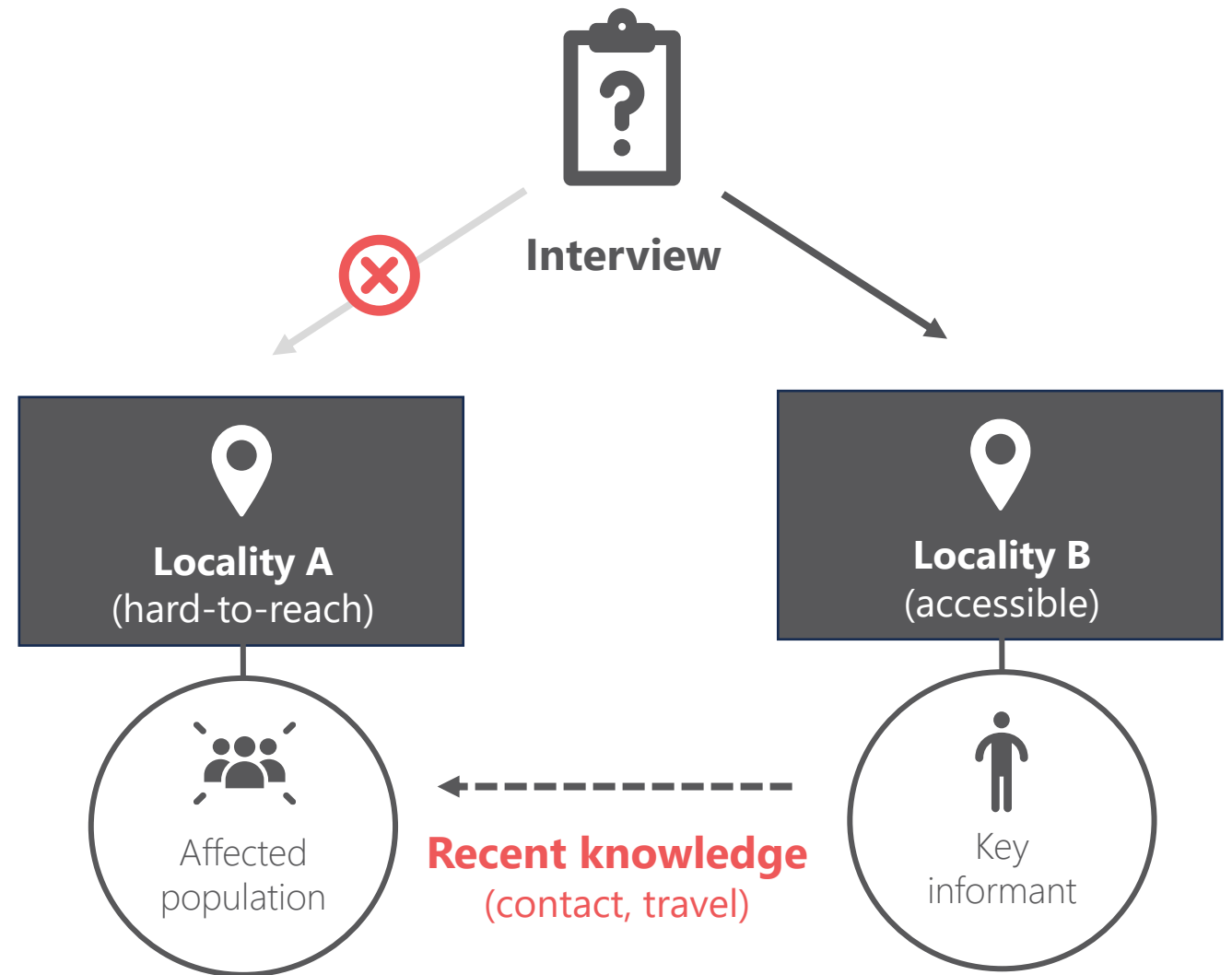
To provide humanitarian actors with information on the **extent of humanitarian needs** in shock-affected and difficult to access areas of South Kordofan, by conducting an assessment of **hard-to-reach areas** in the state.



Approach

Data were collected using the **Area of Knowledge** (AoK) approach: a non-representative sample of Key Informants (KIs) with recent knowledge of conflict affected and hard-to-reach areas of interest was interviewed about the situation in their areas of knowledge, as well as the situation in their current settlement. All data collected should be considered as indicative.

All data concerning hard-to-reach areas were aggregated at the settlement level: when different surveys were collected about the same settlements, responses were merged, taking the value of the most reported answers.



Assessment coverage

Areas of data collection

Accessible areas in Kadugli city (Kadugli) and Alkewek (Alreif alshargi).



Data was collected in accessible areas of Kadugli and Alreif Alshargi by NRC, from March 17-23. A total of 733 surveys were conducted. The key informants were selected based on their knowledge of a settlement in hard-to-reach areas of South Kordofan.

Areas of knowledge

Hard-to-reach areas of 6 localities in South Kordofan: Kadugli, Alreif Alshargi, Algoz, Dilling, Delami and Habila.



The survey conducted were mainly aiming at capturing information about the humanitarian situation in hard-to-reach areas of 6 localities of South Kordofan: Kadugli, Alreif Alshargi, Algoz, Dilling, Delami and Habila. In total, information was collected about 124 settlements across these 6 localities.

Limitations

- As key informants (KIs) were mostly requested to report about the situation at the settlement level (i.e., for all people living in their settlement of knowledge), some of them might have faced difficulties in reporting accurately about the situation for other households for some of the assessed indicators, such as access to food.
- As most interviewed KIs were adult males, issues that concern primarily women and girls, persons with disabilities, etc. are likely to have been under-reported/ less accurately reflected in the findings.
- Due to the KIs selection criteria that allowed KIs to take part in the interview if they had been or had contact with someone from the settlements of interest in the 30 days prior to data collection, evolutions in the situation taking place at the end of the recall period are likely to be less frequently reflected in the findings.



02

Key findings



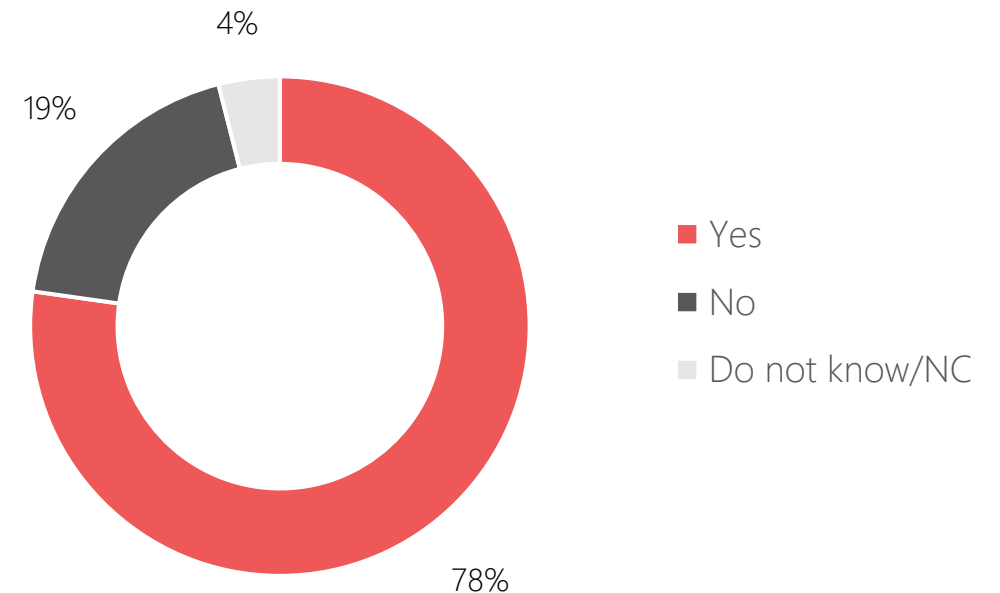
Movement barriers and protection

Movement barriers

In 78% of assessed settlements, KIs reported that some people had been unable to leave their settlement in the 30 days prior to data collection. KIs reported that it **concerned specific population groups disproportionately**, such as the elderly, in 61% of these settlements (N=98).

In 77% of assessed settlements, KIs reported people facing **barriers when trying to move outside of the settlement**, including a **lack of financial means** (reported in 82% of them), **fear for safety and/or security** (82%) and **road closures** (77%).

% of settlements in which barriers to leaving the settlement were reported



NC: No consensus among key informants interviewed about the same settlement.

Safety & security

In **81%** of the assessed settlements, KIs reported that **most people had not been feeling safe** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

In **54%** of settlements, KIs reported that **the security & safety situation had worsened** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Finally, key informants reported the **presence of unaccompanied children** in **16%** of assessed settlements.

* Respondents could select multiple options.

Top 3 most reported security and safety concern, by % of settlements*

Men

Insecurity (86%), criminality (63%), discrimination (44%).

Women



Insecurity (81%), sexual abuse, exploitation and harassment (52%), physical harassment or violence (44%).

Boys

Insecurity (85%), criminality (65%), discrimination (44%).

Girls

Insecurity (83%), Sexual abuse, exploitation and harassment (54%), physical harassment or violence (42%).



Public services and infrastructures

Access to basic services

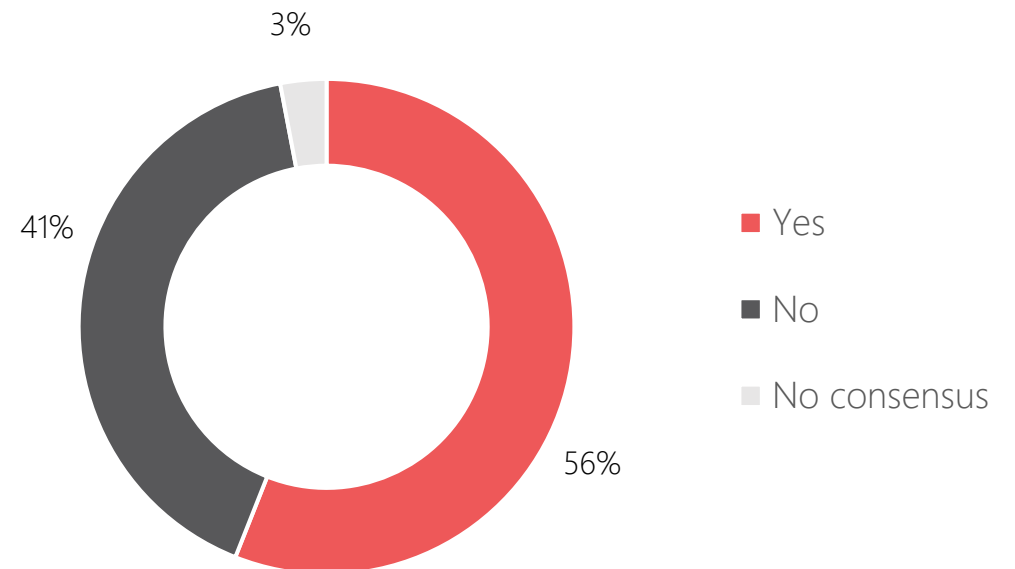
In **61%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **access to basic services had worsened** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

In settlements in which worsened access was reported (N=73), **hospitals/health facilities and educational facilities** were reportedly the most impacted services.

The most reported reasons for decreased access were **closure due to insecurity, closure due to a lack of personnel** and **impossibility to travel due to insecurity**.

% of settlements in which KIs reported basic services being accessible in 30 days prior to data collection



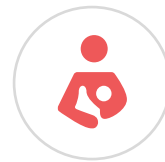
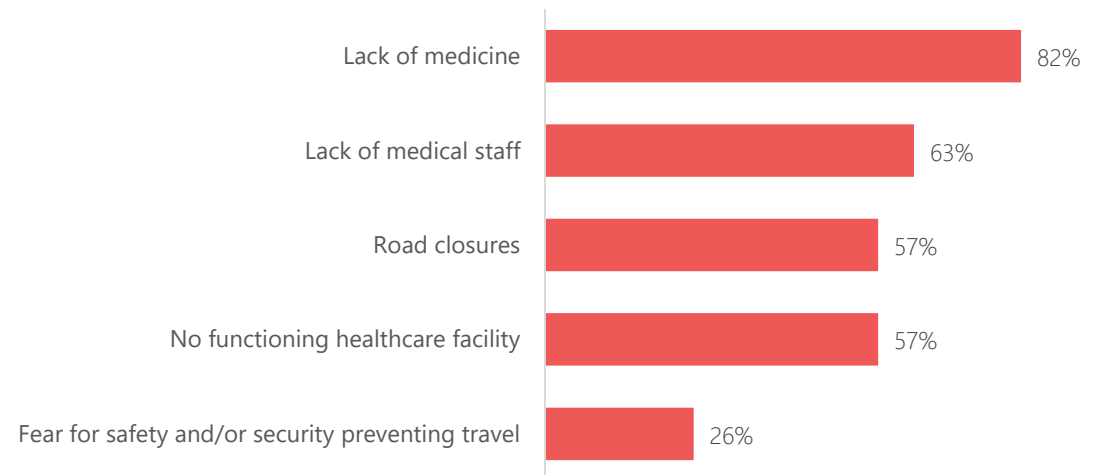
Healthcare

In **82%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported **barriers to accessing healthcare** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

In 78% of them (N=80), KIs reported that **some population groups were more likely to face such barriers**, especially children below the age of 5, and pregnant or lactating women.

Most reported barriers to healthcare, in settlements concerned (N=98)*



In **95%** of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **nutrition programs were not available** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

* Respondents could select multiple options.

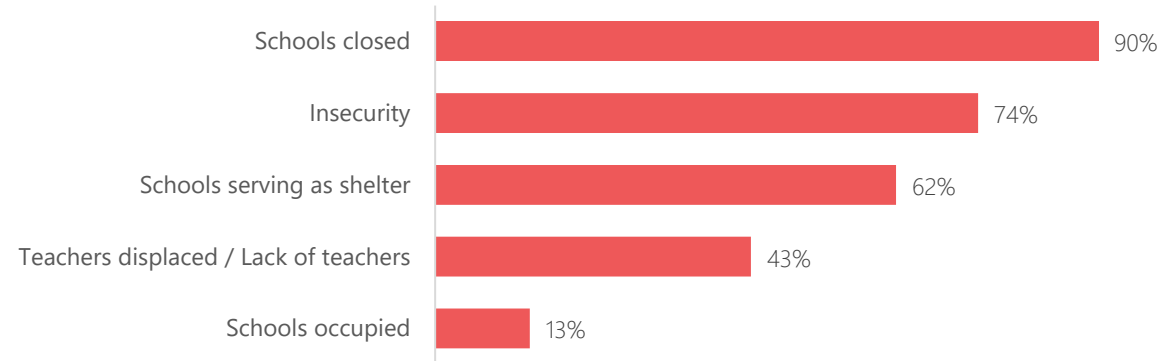
Education



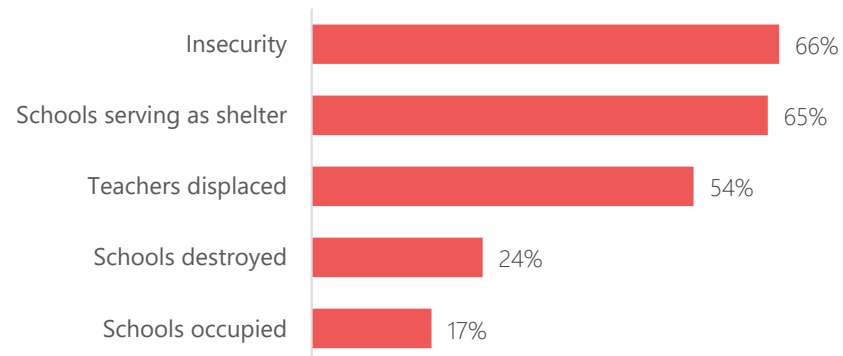
In **98%**

of settlements, most children between 6 and 12 years old had not been attending school in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Top 5 most reported barriers limiting school attendance, by % of assessed settlement in which attendance gaps were reported (N=117)*



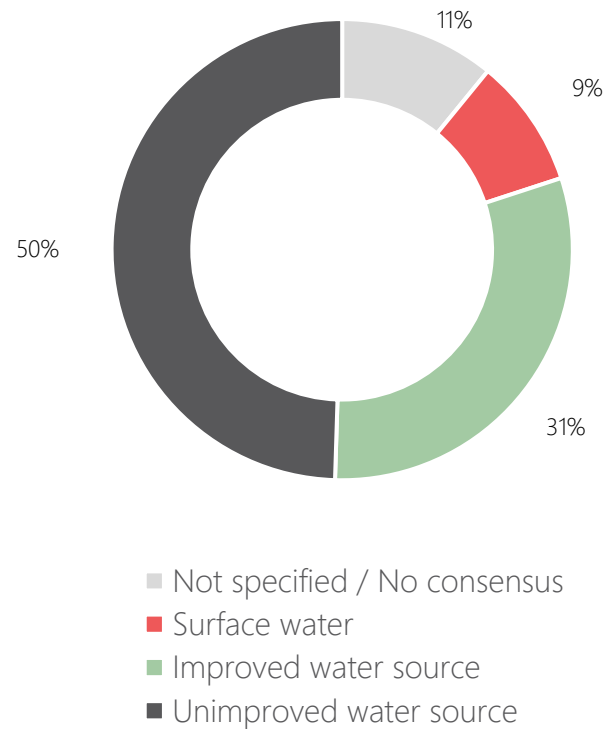
Top 5 most reported barriers that would prevent children from attending school if they were to reopen, by % of assessed settlements*



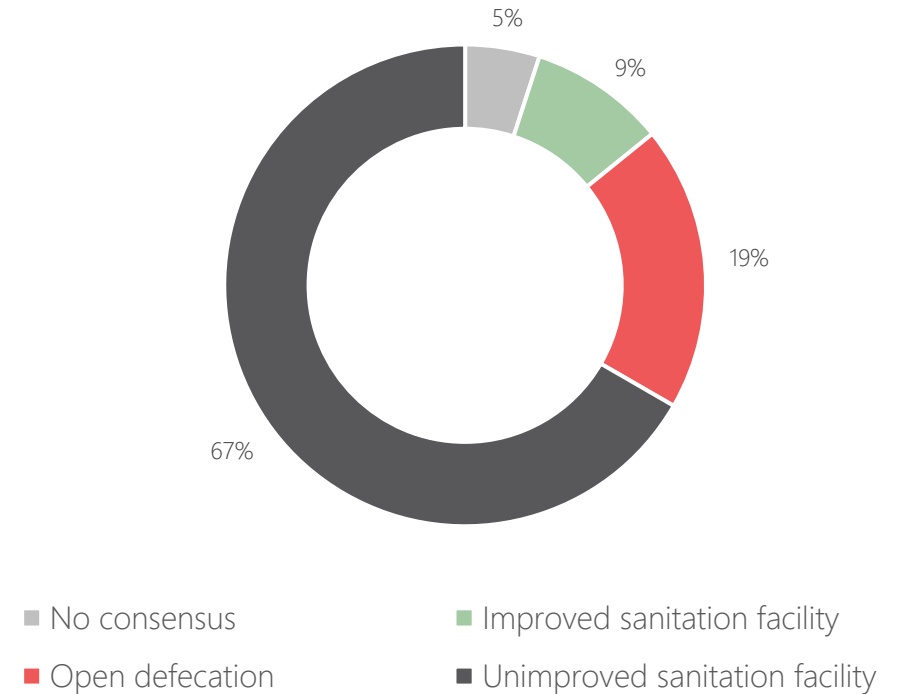
* Respondents could select multiple options.

WASH

Reported primary source of drinking water used by most households, by % of settlements



Reported most used type of sanitation facility, by % of settlements



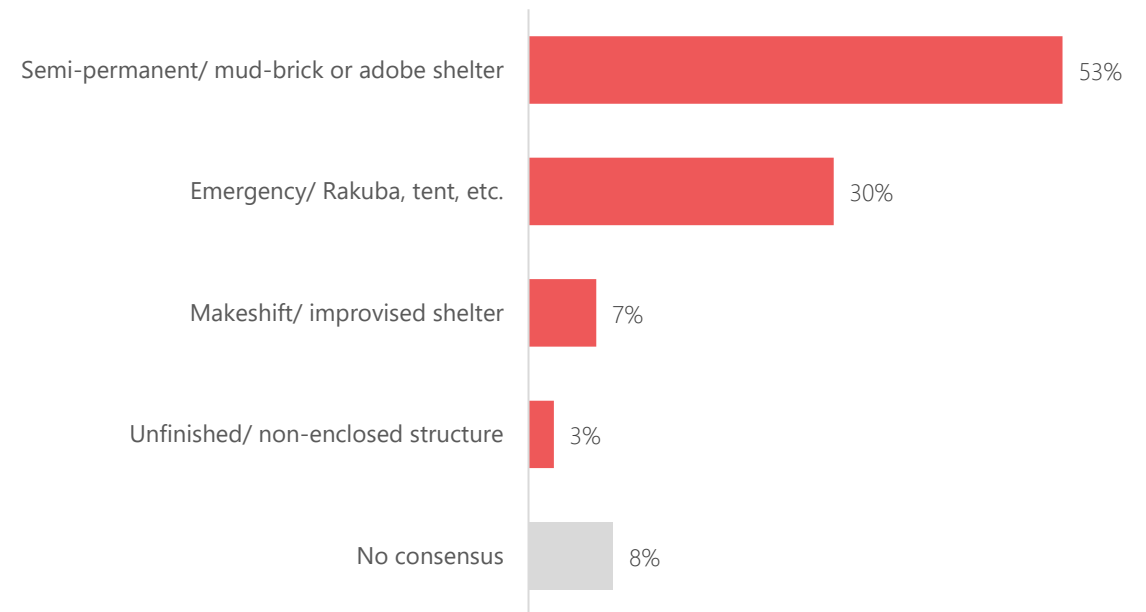
Shelter

In **40%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **access to shelters had worsened** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

In settlements in which a worsened access was reported (N=48), the most reported reasons were that shelters were inaccessible due to movement restrictions (56%), or major damages due to conflicts (46%)*.

Types of shelter in which most households reportedly resided in 30 days prior to data collection, by % of assessed settlements



* Respondents could select multiple options.



Food security & livelihoods

Livelihoods

In **78%**

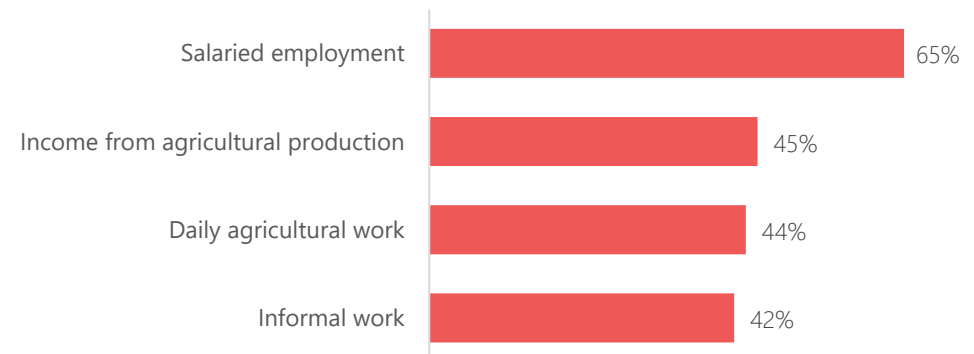
of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **access to livelihoods had worsened** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

In these settlements (N=93), the most reported impact on livelihoods were the loss or destruction of properties (72%), loss or decrease of assistance from relatives (65%), movement barriers related to insecurity (65%) and rising prices (56%).

Top 3 reported food sources in 30 days prior to data collection, by % of settlements*



Top 4 reported income sources in 30 days prior to data collection, by % of settlements*



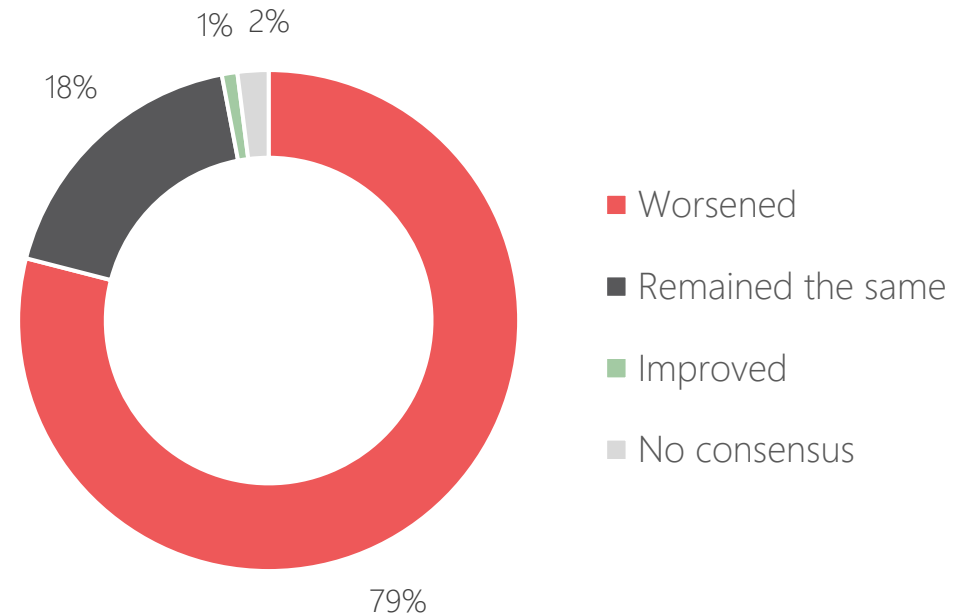
Access to food

In **87%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **some people were not able to access enough food** in the 30 days prior to data collection.

In the majority of assessed settlements, KIs also reported perceiving **an increase in the number of people suffering from hunger due to a lack of food** in the same period. It is important to note that, KIs were reporting at the settlement level and might have had limited knowledge of the hunger situation at the household level: this perception seemed to be in large part inferred from an observation of contributing factors such as an increase in IDPs influx, destruction of crops, and lack of money/income in the settlement*.

Perceived evolution in access to food in 30 days prior to data collection, by % of assessed settlement



* Results derived from follow-up open-ended question.



Priority needs and AAP

Priority needs



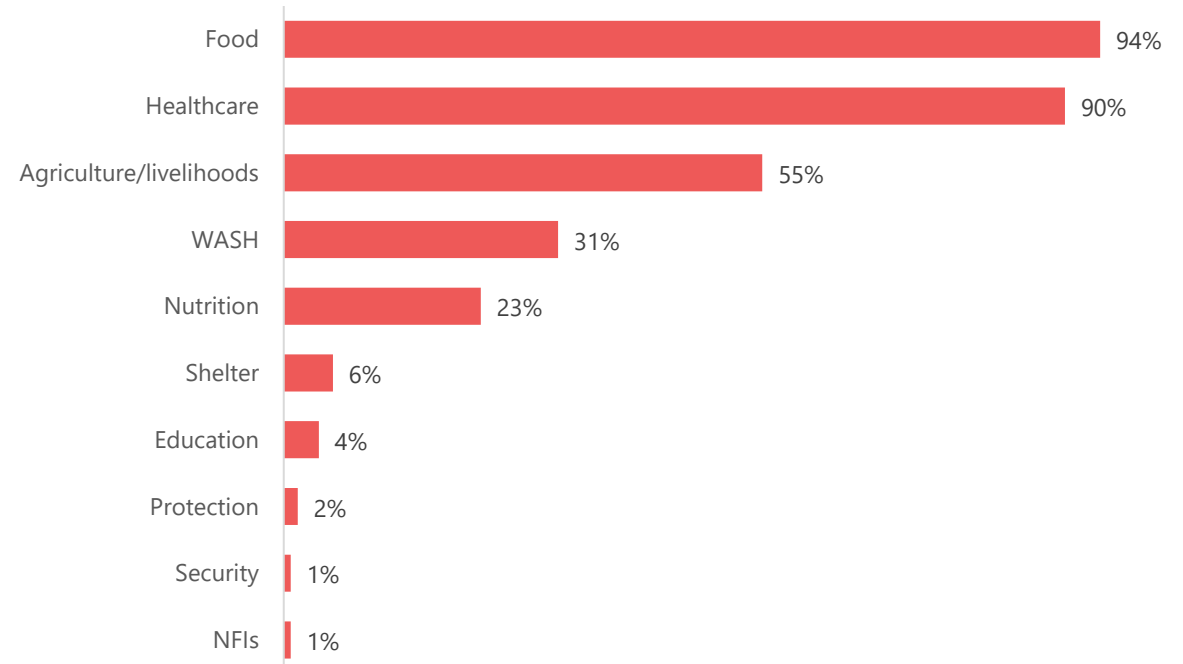
Food



Healthcare

The most reported priority needs were **food** and **healthcare** and were reported in almost all of the settlements (94% and 90%, respectively).

Most reported priority needs, by % of settlements*



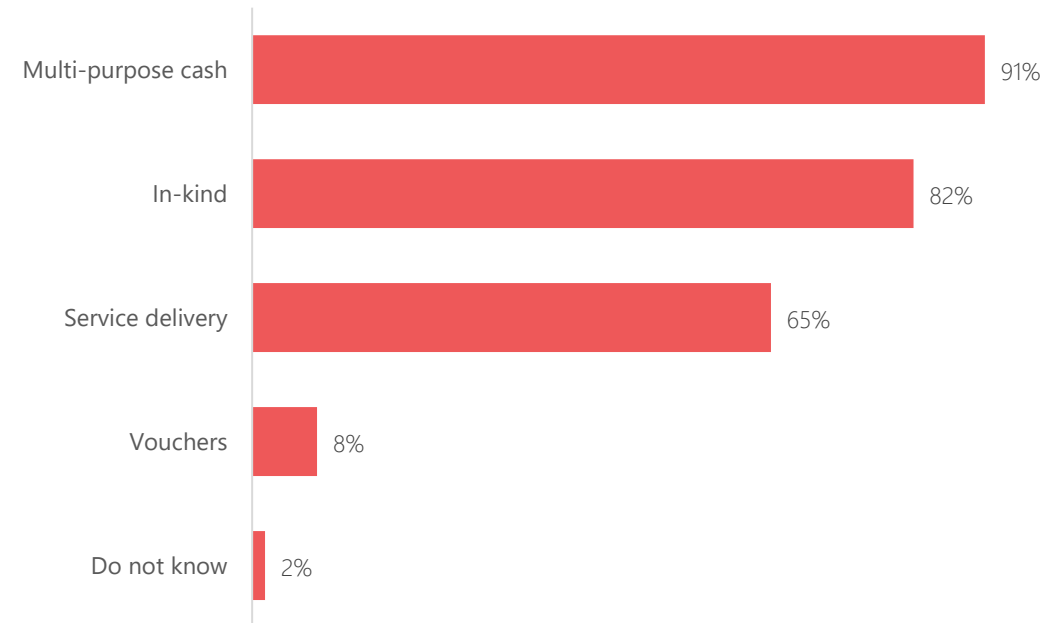
* Respondents could select multiple options.

Assistance

In **96%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **no assistance had been received** in the 30 days prior to data collection. In the two settlements in which assistance had reportedly been received, it was mainly agriculture/livelihoods and food assistance.

Preferred modality of assistance by most of the population, by % of settlements*



* Respondents could select multiple options.

Assistance

In **45%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **safety issues for people accessing assistance.**

In **16%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **some groups were less likely to receive assistance** even when in need.

In **47%**

of assessed settlements, KIs reported that **most people were unable to leave their homes to receive assistance,** mainly due to insecurity













03

Conclusion

Key messages

Reported evolution of needs in 30 days prior to data collection

	Access to basic services	
	Access to food	
	Access to nutrition assistance	
	Access to shelters	
	Perceived security & safety	

Priority needs



Food



Healthcare



Livelihoods



WASH



Nutrition

Key messages

- In the majority of assessed settlements, populations were reportedly facing safety & security issues outside their settlements/on the roads, **preventing populations from moving out of the settlements**. These barriers seemed to have an impact on the humanitarian situation in these settlements, because of their impact on livelihoods, access to food, and access to basic services. Concerning protection issues were reported in some settlements, including the presence of unaccompanied children, concerns related to SEAH, etc.
- The most concerning sectors appeared to be **food security** and **health**: in the majority of assessed settlements, KIs reported that some people were not able to access enough food and that there were barriers to accessing healthcare. Furthermore, food and healthcare were the most reported priority needs across settlements.
- Results indicate that the **situation has been deteriorating** in terms of access to food, livelihoods, basic services, nutrition assistance, and in terms of safety and security in the 30 days prior to data collection.

Thank you for your attention



emma.kruger@impact-initiatives.org

jannie.nielsen@impact-initiatives.org



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